MOTIONS RE: VICTORY IN TUNISIA AND FELICITATIONS TO HIS HIGHNESS THE ELAYA RAJA.

PRESIDENT: Two special motions have been brought up, one in regard to the victory in Tunisia and the other in regard to the success of His Highness the Elaya Raja in the recent B. A. Degree Examination. I take it that the idea of the House is that they should be put from the Chair. In pursuance of that idea I put them from the Chair.

The motion of Mr. K. G. Govindan is to the following effect. "This House wishes to express its joy and thankfulness for the brilliant victory of the Allies in Tunisia and exhorts the people of this country to continue the same systematic support to war efforts of the Allies till the day of final Allied Victory." I have already given expression to the sentiments which I am sure the honourable members of this House have reciprocated. I put the motion to the vote.

The motion was put and carried *nem con.*

The other motion is "This Assembly begs respectfully to tender its most sincere felicitations to His Highness the Elaya Raja on His Highness's distinguished success in the recent B. A. Degree Examination." Notices have been given by Mr. S. Narayana Pillai and Mr. K. G. Govindan. In putting this motion I need only say that the people of this State and indeed the people of all Indian States generally should be full of rejoicing that a scion of the Royal Family of Travancore has so distinguished himself in the field of academic studies. His success has been conspicuous. He gets first place in Sanskrit in the State and he has taken a distinguished place both in his special subject and in English. May he continue and perfect his studies and when in the fulness of time greater responsibilities come to him, may he be fortified by the study and the reflection which will follow it and become supremely fit for occupying any position which he may be called upon to fill.

The motion was put and carried *nem con.*

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

DEMAND I—EXCISE.

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 500 for the entertainment of additional staff for preventive work in the High Ranges. For the protection of State Revenue it has been found necessary for some time past, to send additional men for patrol work to the frontiers especially between Chellarkoil and Bodimettu. The menace from the criminal tribes on the British Indian side of this frontier was being increasingly felt and after the imposition of the cardamom duty it was found absolutely necessary to send more men for patrol work. We have a small unit of armed reserve men for protecting tobacco revenue by patrol work on the Cochin frontier. Part of that unit was being sent to this place. But it is not possible to send these people to the High Ranges for all time without prejudice to their normal work. But more men are required in the High Ranges especially after the recent

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[Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan.]

incident when some of our men, and men from Police and the Forest Departments, were assaulted by a gang of robbers from the British Indian side. Therefore, I request the sanction of the House for this additional amount to be used for the rest of the year.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND III—STAMPS.

MR. A. LEKSHMINARAYANA AYYAR: Sir, I beg to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 30,850 under Demand No. III—Stamps. There is an abnormal demand for stamp papers this year due to a large number of documentary transactions. The revenue in the first eight months of this year is more than Rs. 21·5 lakhs against Rs. 14·5 lakhs only last year. Stamp papers have to be printed and despatched to the treasuries in larger quantities and more paper has to be purchased. There is also some increase in the price of paper. Owing to larger sales an increased amount of discount is payable to vendors. An additional amount of Rs. 30,850 is required for all these additional items of expenditure made up of cost of paper and card boards Rs. 9,000, transmission charges Rs. 5,850 and discount Rs. 16,000. I request that the House will be pleased to vote the additional grant.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND VII—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INCLUDING WATER WORKS AND DRAINAGE.

MR. I. C. CHACKO: I beg to move that a supplementary grant of Rs. 37,145 be granted under Demand VII—Public Works Department including Water Works and Drainage. Out of this amount Rs. 20,000 is required for the additional accommodation which has been provided in the new S. M. V. School and the balance Rs. 17,145 is for certain alterations and additional buildings in the new High Court Buildings. I request that the grant be made.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: I wish to oppose this motion and will adhere to the opposition until I am convinced that I am wrong. In the first place I find "Shifting of the High Court and the S. M. V. school from their present location." Speaking this day, the 17th of Edavom, I can say with authority that the High Court is now accommodated in the old Vanchiyur School buildings and the School is accommodated in the Police Head Quarter's Office. I hope it is an oversight and these buildings will not be changed. I emphasise the words "present location".

Secondly as a matter of policy, placing this demand for grant before this House creates difficulties for some of us, for, apart from the wisdom or otherwise of the shifting—shifting may be necessary—we are here to ratify by this vote a change of policy and the shifting of the offices. I only request you Sir, that, at any rate in future, before things of such a serious nature are done, the vote of the Legislature may be obtained. With regard to the shifting, it is not within my province to say anything now. But I wish to give a warning to the Government about one matter. When large sums of money were

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